

ABSTRACT

G-IIB-250

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(205) 1767 (mound site), 1902 (monument)
Strawn, Maryland/Pennsylvania vicinity
Public/private

Milestone No. ---(205), at the site of a former large mound of earth, marks a point on the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary a little more than 184 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line, the English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a very plain, dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland. It is in excellent condition, ^{though leaning slightly to the north} ~~unaltered, firmly in place;~~ measures about 10 inches square by about 1½ feet high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when this site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when this new monument was added to the remains of the cairn at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary). The ^{however} ~~mound~~ was no longer distinguishable at the time of the 1981 field inspection. On the national and state levels, No. ---(205) and mound site are significant primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, they are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 205)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the north end of Sunrise Road, "Hemlock Acres"

CITY, TOWN

Strawn

(formerly Oakton)

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Maryland/Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Garrett / PA: Somerset

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS N/A

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT☒ PUBLIC☐ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ BUILDING(S)☐ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☒ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ not applicable☐ NO☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER state boundary marker**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument and mound site only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

G-IIB-250 entered 9/4/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE
Maryland 21401

CONDITION
(monument)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED (mound)
	site

CHECK ONE
☒ UNALTERED (monument)
☒ ALTERED (mound)

CHECK ONE
☒ ORIGINAL SITE (monument) & mound)
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(205), at the site of a former large earth mound, marks a point on the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary a little more than 184 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line. The monument is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD; is in excellent condition, unaltered, ^{though leaning slightly to the north}, firmly set; measures about 10 inches square by about 1½ feet high above ground; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when this site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when this new monument was added to the remains of the mound at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary). The mound is no longer distinguishable.

The area here is the northeast corner of a ^{sizeable} future housing development, "Hemlock Acres" (now with only a few cabins), partly cleared on the Maryland side, and surrounded by dense woodlands. The site is within Election District 5 of Garrett County, MD, and Addison Township of Somerset County, PA; about 1 1/4 miles due east of the small scattered settlement of Strawn (formerly Oakton), MD/PA; ^{at the north edge} near the top of a ^{unnamed} high hill (elevation at the site about 2740 feet); at a point about 15 feet west of the stone foundation ruins of the ^{old abandoned oil} pipeline gatehouse and about 10 feet north of an old east-west barbed wire fence, in the scraggly fencerow separating the ^{wooded} development land on the south from the cleared pipeline. It cannot be seen from the development road, but is easily seen from the pipeline and gatehouse ruins; and appears protected by the site remoteness and inconspicuousness.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, is of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground, thus eliminating the need for a concrete foundation. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex are all clear and intact; though there is a chip out of the top southwest corner and small nicks along several of the vertical edges. According to the 1900-03 Resurvey notes (MGS Vol. 7, 1908, p. 98): this monument was "placed at the site of a former large earth mound..."(which had been) "almost obliterated in the building of gate house for the oil pipe line..."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for further descriptions of the 1900-03 monuments and original Mason and Dixon mounds)

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (mound site) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
 1902 (monument) SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(205) and its mound site are significant on the national and state levels primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This site was surveyed and marked with a cairn in 1767, and the new Cockeysville marble monument added to the remains of the cairn in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. ---(205) and the mound site are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

G-IIB-250 Survey No.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Accident (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series
(topographic), 1948 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 64880, northing 439810

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Garrett

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Somerset

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

7/25/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

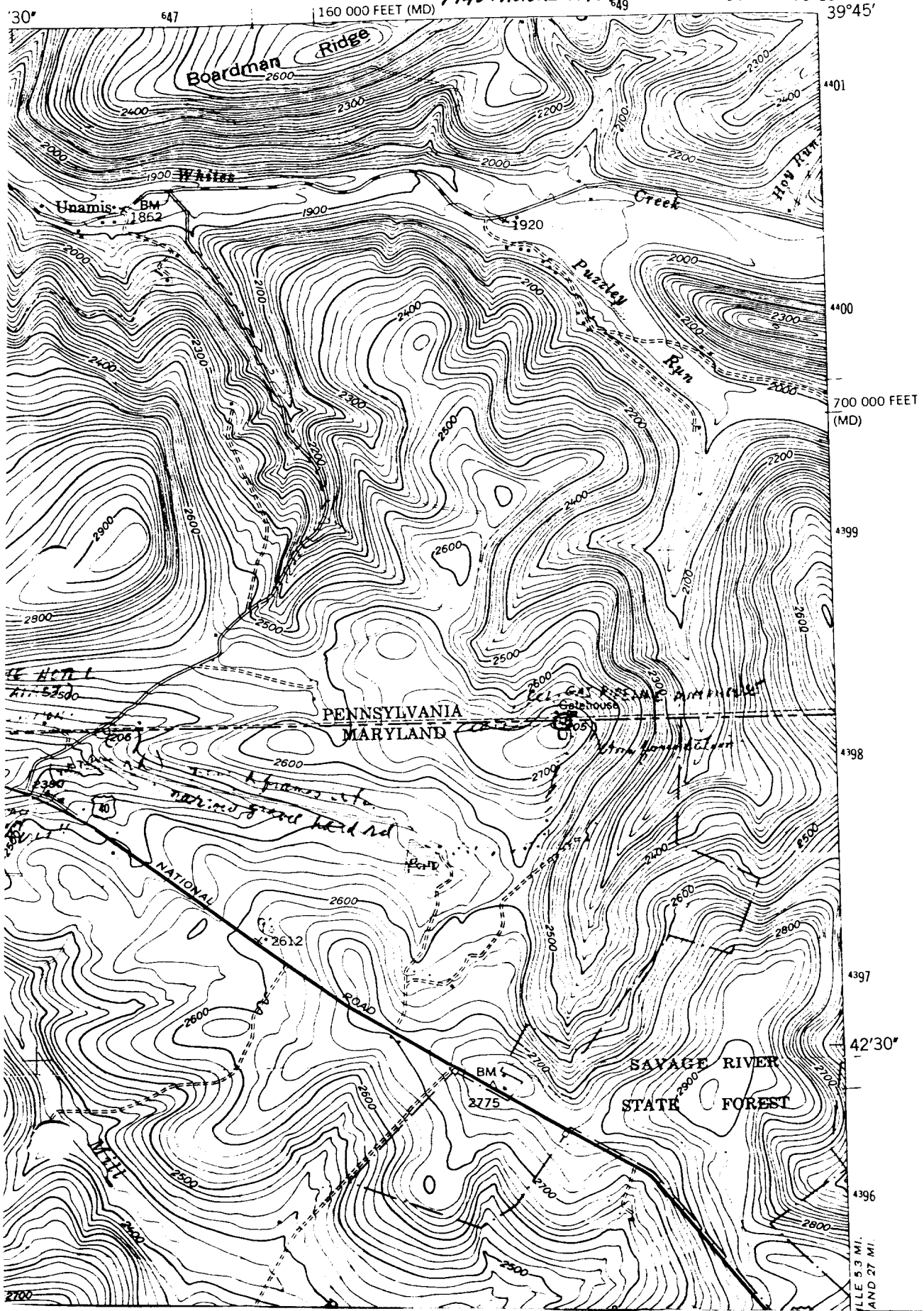
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

OF PENNSYLVANIA
RONMENTAL RESOURCES
OGIC SURVEY

ACCIDENT QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1948 PHOTO REV. 1974 SCALE: 1" = 2000'

5163.1 SE
'MARKLETON'





G-IB-250



6-IB-250